

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

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University of Connecticut

Executive Board Minutes 18 May 2015

Attendance:

- **Present:** Tony Patelunas (minute-taker), Morad Behandish, Phillip Price, Greg Treich
- Absent: Vanessa Lovelace, Thomas Briggs

President: Tony Patelunas

- Need to incentivize senate involvement and Committee reporting. Executive shall brainstorm closer to Fall.
- Work on the "branding" of GSS and concentrate on its core mission and goals.
- Kay Gruder
 - She would like to use the senate as a model for Career Ambassadors. They would work with Kay to disseminate career information, events, and preparedness to departments directly.
 - She would like to work with GSS to co-sponsor bringing in employers to discuss what they want from graduate students and how to prepare for specific jobs. This would have a larger impact than Kay herself holding career seminars.
- Graduate/undergraduate advisors
 - Tony has contacted undergraduate student Ian Fignon, who attended the last GSS Senate meeting (1st April, 2015), to discuss possibility of graduate students acting as advisers of undergraduate organizations. Ian said he will collect information on interest organizations. Tony aims to establish further contact with him in the Fall.
- Collaboration with USG.
 - After a brief discussion the GSS Executive came to no conclusions. Tony will contact the new USG President in Fall (currently only the previous President is listed on their website).
- Tony will be away over summer until August
- Next meeting
 - GSS Executive to meet more regularly in August to establish our plan for the 2015/16 academic year
 - No date established yet for next meeting.

Treasurer: Greg Treich

- Explained that he will be here in Connecticut over the summer
- Outstanding GSS Short Term Loan
 - Greg explained the circumstances that has led to one student, John Macharia, being unable to pay his GSS Short Term Loan. He explained that the best course of action would to allow a one day reprieve to register for class before having the hold placed back on his account until he pays his loan.
 - The Executive voted unanimously in favour of this course of action.



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Activities Director: Morad Behandish

• No updates for GAIN at this point